GREATER LAWNDALE
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

NEWS NOTES

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KEDVALE SQUARE ATTRACTS ENTHUSIASTIC VIEWERS

A rainy July week-end could not keep interested viewers from the preview showing of the model home at Kedvale Square. Builder John Stastny described the enthusiastic and overwhelming response to the showing of this home as "thrilling experience."

PROSPECTVE BUYERS AT MODEL HOME
John Stastny, builder, in foreground

Within the next two weeks over 1000 visitors, largely local residents, had passed through the model unit and, according to Stastny, not a one could fail to be impressed with the new Townhouse homes.

Homes began to sell immediately and two homes have been sold to individuals who once lived in Lawndale and presently live on the South side.

Stastny reported that a tremendous amount of time and effort has gone into the planning of Kedvale Square, especially on the part of Claude J. Peck, chairman of the Lawndale Redevelopment Committee and Jay Vivas, executive director of GLCC. In light of these efforts, he feels that the response to the new home has proved a "very gratifying experience."

Also he pointed out that the people of Lawndale, in addition to appreciating the importance of low-price, high-quality constructed homes, recognized the favorable influence that desirable housing units as these can have on the community as a whole.

Inside Model Home are JOHN STASTNY, Builder, and HELEN JOHNSON, GLCC Staff.

The model home, tastefully furnished by Sears, Roebuck Co. contains an attractive master bedroom and two smaller bedrooms. Also there are 1½ baths and a full sized basement for recreation and study. The paved patio and back lawn offer a tempting spot for backyard barbecues and energetic children. All exterior improvements: sodding, landscaping, fencing, are furnished with the home. Special features as off-street parking and tot lots add considerably to the desirability of the Kedvale Square homes.

"Operation Pride" Judging Soon

Enthusiastic interest, hard work, and "Pride" in the Lawndale community have made the 1962 Operation Pride Contest a tremendous success. Over 500 entries have been received at the Greater Lawndale Conservation Commission from residents in the area who are concerned about combating blight through community clean-up programs.

1300 TROY STREET IMPROVEMENT CLUB

The results of this summer's clean-up campaign will be judged Friday, August 17th. On the judging staff are Rev. Peter Huiner of the Lawndale Christian Reformed Mission Church, Mrs. Elinor Smith from the Commission on Human Relations, Harvey Shwartz from the Community Conservation Board, John Harris from the Fillmore Boys Club, and Amos Moore of the Chicago Youth Center. $600 in total will be awarded at the September Awards Banquet to those winners selected by the judges Friday.

STREET FIGHTS TO BOXING MATCHES

The newly installed facilities at the Archie Moore gym will encourage disputing street club members to settle their differences in the ring "like men — not like punks in the street with knives," reported Ruban Pinkley, youth representative on the Better Boys Foundation Board of Directors. In addition to this aspect of the gym, as an outlet for disputes among the various street groups in Lawndale, Ruban feels the gym will provide a wholesome atmosphere for the boys interested in developing their skill at boxing and in general physical fitness.

Ruban, a member of the Cobras, was selected because of his continued interest in the gym, to represent the various groups in the area on the Board of Directors. Ruban has been very active with the Federation in organizing recreational activities and contacting other youth representatives who also participate in the gym activities. This new gym contains modern boxing equipment, two boxing rings, and complete locker and shower facilities.

Ruban said that when plans for the new gym first began it was doubtful how successful it would be. Since the gym has opened the eager participants "can't wait to get in."

Now that the gym has been successfully completed and membership is growing, further expansion is planned. The top floor will be converted into a recreational area to include girls as well as boys. Game rooms will be organized and music and dancing taught. The lot adjoining the gym will be blacktopped and basketball and volleyball nets will be set up.

BUSINESSMAN IMPROVES AREA

One of the greatest assets to a clean, desirable neighborhood is businessmen, moving into an area such as Lawndale, who are concerned with maintaining a clean, well-kept place of business.

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WENDELL CLARK, owner, RAY BOSEMAN, assistant and GERRY LEVY and WILMER TANNER.

FREEDOM RIDER FILM TO BE SHOWN

A documentary film of the 1961 Freedom Rides through the South will be shown this month at the August 28th meeting of the Steering Committee of Block Clubs. This film, produced by the American Methodist Episcopal Church, traces the historic trip of the Freedom Riders from their starting point in Washington D.C. through the most racially torn cities of the South.

This movie, one of the best produced concerning the issue of race discrimination, is reported to be an emotionally moving story, vividly illustrating the racial strife that now inflicts our Southern states.

Bus burnings in Anniston are followed by riots in Montgomery and Birmingham and jailings in Mississippi as the Riders challenge segregation and discrimination in public facilities in these cities.

One of the Freedom Riders from Chicago is scheduled to appear at the meeting and relate some of his personal experiences of the trip. In addition to the movie and Rider; Sam Riley, CORE chairman, will discuss some of the activities now in progress aimed at the elmination of racial discrimination and segregation.

Balch Added to GLCC Staff

Working with the Greater Lawndale Conservation Commission this summer as editor of the *News Notes* and director of the Operation Pride Contest is Miss Buzzy Balch.

Miss Balch was assigned to the Commission by the American Friends Service Committee in connection with their industrial community project. The Friends have placed students throughout the community in social agencies and industrial jobs as part of the summer work-study program.

Miss Balch's home is in Boise, Idaho and she will be a senior at Stanford University in California this fall. She is an international relations major.

Lawndale Youth Devotes Time to Better Neighborhood

When 16 year old Eugene Clemons of 3151 16th Street began working on the lawn in front of the large apartment building where his family are tenants, cars were parked in the front area and the ground was too hard and worn-out to grow anything. If one were to pass this same place a year later it could hardly be recognized because of the time and effort this boy has taken in "fixing the place up."

Eugene Clemons, Mrs. Eva Mae Davis, Michael Levels.

On his own initiative and with very little help or encouragement from the residents within the building, Eugene began hauling dirt to this lot to begin his project. From the money he earned working after school in a dry goods store in the area, he bought the grass seed necessary to plant the entire lawn. Since the lawn has begun to grow, Eugene and a neighbor, Michael Levels, have hauled bricks by hand to the area to construct a very attractive brick hedging which is painted red and white. Mr. Harvy Shacks, owner of the building, furnished the paint.

Eugene finds time to work on the lawn after summer school lets out at noon and after work at 7 o'clock in the evening. Following graduation, Eugene hopes to be able to attend the Illinois Institute of Technology where he will major in music.

When asked why he attempted this particular project, Eugene replied "I like to work in the yard, and it keeps me off the streets and out of trouble."

Softball Tournament Inspires Healthy Competition

A healthy approach to the competitive existence of gang-fighting Lawndale teenagers has been inspired by the N.S. 2nd Annual Softball Tournament. The attempt to re-direct some of the aggressive energy of the teenagers toward field sports and away from street "sports" has thus far had commendable success. The teenage ballplayers are quite enthusiastic about the tournament and have devoted a lot of time to practice.

Games are scheduled at Douglas Park on Tuesdays for the intermediate teams (boys 14-17 years old) and on Thursdays for the senior teams (boys 18-21). Volunteer umpires include parents, friends, Northwestern University students and O. J. Keller, member of the Illinois Youth Commission.

Ernest Jenkins, Senior Street Worker of the Lawndale Neighborhood Services, is director of the Tournament.

LAWNDALE TEENAGERS AND PARENTS HOLD PICNIC

A picnic, jointly planned by Lawndale teenagers and their parents, was held last Sunday, August 12th at Thatcher Woods. The planning of this picnic, the first in Lawndale organized by both the teenage groups' representatives and an adult Steering Committee, was coordinated by the Lawndale Neighborhood Services' Street Program.

Henry Hardy, in charge of the coordinating the planning, reported that the adults and teenagers began working separately and merged their efforts at the request of the teenagers.

Hawaiian Theme For White House Tea

Hawaiian leis of richly colored and fragrantly scented flowers, and tables carefully decorated with a variety of Hawaiian fruits lent an unmistakable "Island" atmosphere to the White House Tea held July 29. The 1800 South Central Park Block Club in connection with the GLCC Ladies' Auxiliary, sponsored this tea at the Sear's YMCA in hopes of raising money to help finance some of their many community projects.

Hostesses for the function were Miss Geraldine Caradine and Miss Ethel Hafford. On the tea committee were Mrs. Julia Fairfax, Mrs. Ruth Watson, Mrs. Mittie Conditt, Dr. Dorothy Branch, Mrs. Alpha Lucas, Mrs. Mattie Weens and Mrs. W. Plunkett. Co-chairmen for the event were Mrs. Emma Colbert and Mrs. Jessie Holland.

SYMPOSIUM HELD ON NEGRO PROBLEMS

"Facts about the Negro in Chicago" was the theme of Chicago Urban League Council of Religious Leader's annual symposium on race relations. The symposium was held July 26 at the University of Chicago Divinity School.

TED COBB, Urban League Deputy Director, JULIO VIVAS, Executive Director of GLCC, EDWIN C. BERRY, Executive Director of Urban League, H. B. LAW, President Chicago Urban League.

The program, which was opened by Rev. Daniel J. Mallette of St. Agatha's Church, began with a brief presentation of topics by the Urban League staff, expanded into workshop sessions on specific problems, and was closed by a summary by Edwin Berry, Director, Chicago Urban League.

Several interesting and informative points were brought out by the reports. Ted Cobb, Deputy Director, reported an increase in residential segregation of the Negro in the last ten years. He feared the approach of "splitsville" unless immediate measures were taken to curb this trend. It is interesting to note that in connection with this problem a Social Action Census is presently being taken in several residential areas of Chicago. The purpose of the Census is to prevent the further increase of housing segregation by stopping the block-by-block Ghetto move and encouraging the Negro to bypass the densely populated Negro areas to seek homes in the farflung areas to the North and South. Representatives from the Census will be looking for Negroes who support such a moving plan and individuals from entirely white areas who will welcome Negroes into their neighborhoods. Warren Lehman, housing specialist, also spoke on this problem.

Employment problems were discussed by Thomas Nicholas and Ronald Steward and it was pointed out that the Negro is faced with a dual problem which threatens his working status. Not only is employment discrimination practiced in several businesses but also, due to automation, the unskilled job holders, of which the Negro composes the bulk, are rapidly disappearing. Therefore, his difficulty in finding employment is two-fold. Skilled, educated employees are needed and if the Negro is to continue to find jobs he must fill these two requirements.

A change in atmosphere which would reflect "respect for the child" was recommended by Harold Baron who spoke on Education.

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Fall Workshops Study Lawndale Problems

Probing into the depths of some of Lawndale's most pressing problems will be the GLCC sponsored fall workshops. The Steering Committee of Block Clubs which is handling this project has set the date for the Workshops, October 13, from 1 to 5 o'clock. Residents from Lawndale and any outside persons interested in these problems are encouraged to attend.

Workshops have been organized and committee chairmen named. Mr. Richard Steward and Mrs. Belle Whaley will head the committee on Youth and Youth problems. Handling the Law and Order committee is Mrs. Rose Marie Love and Mrs. Julia Fairfax. Mrs. Rosylin Dean and Mrs. Elinor Smith are the chairmen of the Schools and Education committee. Mrs. Tarlease Bell and Julius Hodges are in charge of the committee on Housing and Urban Renewal.

SEARS YMCA PLANS FOR CHRISTMAS COTILLIAN

Plans are presently being made by Betty Mitchell of the Sears YMCA to sponsor a Christmas Cotillian in the Lawndale area.

Miss Mitchell recently attended the Second Annual Links Cotillian held in June at the Palmer House to gain a prospective on this type of community function. These cotillians are national organizations of business and professional women and the purpose of the cotillian is to raise money for various charity organizations.

Noted at the Links Cotilian were Miss Becky Mitchell, University of Illinois student, Mrs. Julette Buford, GLCC community organizer, and Miss Betty Mitchell of the Sears YMCA.

TIPS ON BUYING A HOME

Homeownership is a way of saving money. For the wage earner, purchase of a home is often the only way in which he saves money. Let us look for a moment at the method in which homeownership results in savings.

When we purchase a home, or an income property, about half the money we pay is used in the payment of the loan, and half is the expense of our mortgage in the form of interest. It is the part of the money which goes to pay the loan which adds to our ownership of the property and becomes a savings to us as well.

Assuming that the value of our property stays the same, our investment in the property will increase each time we make a payment. With each payment we own a bigger share of the home.

If you buy an older home at a right price and sell it after five years, for example, you can reasonably expect to get back your down payment and the two or three thousand dollars more that you have paid off on the loan.

But this will only happen if you have paid a reasonable price for the property in the first place.

If you agree to pay more for a house that it is worth you'll never get your money out of it unless you cheat the next person in selling or renting it.

The penalty for overpayment and careless buying for a place to live is far greater than simply a poor bargain. You are punished each time a payment comes due, and you are punished most of all when you try to sell the house.

A home of your own represents a form of savings if you buy it at the right price. The right price is the fair market value of the house. If you buy a new home, the price will be higher, but the financing is usually more favorable, and often the monthly payments are no higher than some older homes.

SYMPOSIUM . . .
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Finally, health and hospital discrimination was discussed by Ted Pavela. He called on the Negro to accept the challenge of the medical field and help fill the nation's need for doctors. He stated that Negro doctors are needed for white patients as well as Negroes and the doctor-patient relation between the races would be one of the fastest ways to break down the "inferior" stereotype.

GLCC VOLUNTEERS DISCUSS OPERATION PRIDE

Discussing the contest with Mr. Julio Vivas, executive director of GLCC, are volunteer workers Ronald Thompson (upper left) and Geraldine and Joan Caradine (center). Miss Buzzy Balch (upper right) is on the summer staff of GLCC and director of the Operation Pride Contest.

GLCC Board Members Elected

Six new board members were elected in July to serve on the GLCC Board of Directors. These members include Richard Sievert from Commonwealth Edison, Milton Feldman of Kuppenheimer Company, and John Todd of the Cinch Manufacturing Company; all of whom were appointed to fill unexpired terms ending in May 1963. To serve terms expiring in May 1964 are Harry Osgood from Sears, Roebuck, John Marshall also from Sears and Rose Marie Love who is chairman of the GLCC Steering Committee of Block Clubs.

BUSINESSMAN IMPROVES AREA
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Mr. Wendell Clark of the Phillips 66 gas station at the corner of Cermak and Springfield is such an individual. Before Clark moved in, the corner was a blot on the entire neighborhood. The shop that previously stood on that location was dirty and neglected, and water stood in holes near the curb.

Since Mr. Clark built his gas station there the holes have been filled in, the area black-topped, the new building is clean and modern and serves as an outstanding example to the community of what can be done when concerned individuals assume the responsibilities of a cleaner neighborhood.

Progress Made Toward Health Seminar

Dr. Agnes Lattimer, chairman of the GLCC Health Committee, announced last month the formation of two subcommittees which are making plans for the Health Seminar this fall.

These two subcommittees, which held their first meeting in July, are in charge of publicity and programming. On the publicity committee are Milton Hyman of the Commission on Youth Welfare, Mrs. B. G. Fox, Heart Association, Edward Polorian, T. B. Institute, Mrs. Mittie Conditt, Hattie Mack Block Club, Mrs. Arquilla Ricks, Lawndale Area Council, and Johnson Henry Biggers, Boy Scouts of America.

Members of the program committee include Aaron Spitzer of the Welfare Council Metropolitan Chicago, Arthur Solomon, Jr., Chicago Youth Centers, William A. Nix, Social Security Administration and Robert Hutchison of St. Anthony Hospital. Dr. Lattimer is chairman of both of these committees.

Dr. Lattimer explained that the purpose of the health seminar and fair is to acquaint the Lawndale residents with the services to be offered by the new District Health Center which will be located in Garfield Park.

SUMMER STAFF EXPANDED

Assisting with the clerical duties at GLCC this summer is Miss Loris Scott. Miss Scott is a practice teacher at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Grade School during the regular school year.

In 1959 Miss Scott graduated from Providence High School. She attended Wright Junior College and Crane Junior College where she majored in Elementary Education. Presently she lives at home with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Homer Scott at 1515 So. Central Park.

GREATER LAWNDALE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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